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IN THE CLAIMS:

1 1. (Currently amended) An intermediate network device for use in a computer network
2 carrying network traffic corresponding to sessions, the intermediate network device com-
3 prising:

4 a traffic scheduler having one or more resources for use in forwarding network
5 traffic received at the device at different rates;

6 a classification engine configured to identify the received network traffic based
7 upon predefined criteria; and

8 a resource reservation engine in communicating relationship with the traffic
9 scheduler and the classification engine,

10 a receiver arranged to receive a first request from a first sourcing entity for a first
11 session to a first receiving entity, wherein the first session is assigned a session group
12 identifier (ID); wherein the receiver receives a second request from the first sourcing en-
13 tity for a second session to a second receiving entity, wherein the secord request is as-
14 signed a second group indentifier (ID);

15 ~~wherein, in response to a-the requestsrequest to reserve resources, for a first ses-~~
16 ~~sion associated with a session group identifier (ID), the resource reservation engine de-~~
17 ~~termines whether the session group ID of the first session matches a the session group ID~~
18 ~~of one or morethe second sessions for which resources have previously been reserved~~
19 ~~and, if so, directs the traffic scheduler to share the resources reserved for the one or more~~
20 ~~second sessions with the first session.~~

1 2. (Original) The intermediate network device of claim 1 wherein
2 the resource reservation engine includes a data structure for storing information
3 for the sessions, and
4 the resource reservation engine stores a session group identifier (ID) for each ses-
5 sion in the data structure.

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- 1 3. (Original) The intermediate network device of claim 2 wherein the session group
2 identifier associated with a given session includes a source address of an entity sourcing
3 the traffic flow of the given session and a resource identifier (ID).
- 1 4. (Original) The intermediate network device of claim 3 wherein:
2 the resource reservation engine utilizes the Resource reSerVation Protocol
3 (RSVP) specification standard, and
4 the session group ID of a given session is contained in a RSVP Path message as-
5 sociated with the given session.
- 1 5. (Original) The intermediate network device of claim 4 wherein the first and the one or
2 more second sessions carry voice information.
- 1 6. (Previously Presented) The intermediate network device of claim 5 wherein the first
2 and the one or more second sessions originate from a single sourcing entity.
- 1 7. (Previously Presented) The intermediate network device of claim 1 wherein the first
2 and the one or more second sessions originate from a single sourcing entity and are di-
3 rected to two or more different destination entities.
- 1 8. (Original) The intermediate network device of claim 7 wherein the first and the one or
2 more second sessions carry voice information and correspond to a call waiting context.
- 1 9. (Original) In a computer network having a plurality of entities interconnected by a
2 plurality of intermediate network devices having one or more resources for use in for-
3 warding network traffic corresponding to sessions, a method for sharing resources re-
4 served for a first session with a second session, the method comprising the steps of:

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5 receiving a first resource reservation message associated with a first session, the
6 first resource reservation message specifying a session group identifier (ID);
7 storing the session group ID of the first resource reservation message;
8 reserving resources for use with the first session;
9 receiving a second resource reservation message associated with a second session,
10 the second resource reservation message corresponding to a session group ID;
11 comparing the session group ID associated with the second resource message with
12 the stored session group ID specified by the first resource reservation message; and
13 if the two session group IDs match, sharing the resources reserved for use with
14 the first session with the second session.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the session group identifier associated
2 with a given session includes a source address of an entity sourcing the traffic flow and a
3 resource identifier (ID).

1 11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the first resource reserva-
2 tion message is a Path message in accordance with the Resource reSerVation Protocol
3 (RSVP) specification standard that has been configured to carry the resource ID.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the second resource reservation message
2 is a RSVP Resv message corresponding to the second session.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the resource ID is disposed in a resource
2 ID object of the RSVP Path message.

1 14. (Original) In a sourcing entity interconnected with two or more receiving entities by
2 a computer network having a plurality of intermediate network devices, the devices hav-
3 ing one or more resources for use in forwarding network traffic corresponding to ses-

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4 sions, a method for sharing resources reserved for a first session with a second session,
5 the method comprising the steps of:
6 generating a first resource reservation message associated with the first session;
7 loading the first resource reservation message with a session group identifier (ID);
8 sending the first resource reservation message with the session group ID toward a
9 first receiving entity;
10 generating a second resource reservation message associated with the second ses-
11 sion;
12 loading the first resource reservation message with the session group identifier
13 used in the first resource reservation message; and
14 sending the second resource reservation message with the session group ID to-
15 ward a second receiving entity,
16 whereby resources reserved for use with the first session are shared with the sec-
17 ond session.

1 15. (Original) The method of claim 14 further comprising the steps of:
2 generating a locally unique resource identifier (ID) value; and
3 generating the session group ID based on the resource ID value

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the session group ID includes a source
2 address of the sourcing entity and the resource ID.

1 17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 wherein the first and second re-
2 source reservation messages are Path messages in accordance with the Resource reSerVa-
3 tion Protocol (RSVP) specification standard that have been configured to carry the re-
4 source ID.

1 18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the first and second sessions carry voice
2 information and correspond to a call waiting context.

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1 19. (Currently amended) A method for reserving resources by a network device for
2 transmission of messages through a computer network comprising:
3 receiving a first request from a sourcing entity for initiating a first session to a
4 first receiving entity by the network device;
5 identifying the first session by writing a session group identifier (session ID) into
6 packets of the first session;
7 receiving a second request from the sourcing entity for initiating a second session
8 to a second receiving entity for initiating one or more second sessions a second session
9 using the session ID of the first session; and
10 transmitting a setup message to enable other network devices to share resources
11 between the first session and the second session in response to both the first and second
12 sessions having the same session ID.

1 20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 further comprising:
2 including a data structure for storing information for the sessions in a resource
3 reservation engine, and
4 storing the session ID for each session in the data structure in the resource reser-
5 vation engine.

1 21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20 further comprising:
2 identifying a given session by a source address of an entity sourcing the traffic
3 flow of the session and a resource identifier (ID).

1 22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21 further comprising:
2 utilizing the Resource reSerVation Protocol (RSVP) specification standard in the
3 resource reservation engine, and
4 inserting the session ID of a session in a RSVP Path message associated with the
5 given session.

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- 1 23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 further comprising:
2 carrying voice information over the first and the one or more second sessions.
- 1 24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 further comprising:
2 originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single sourcing
3 entity.
- 1 25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 further comprising:
2 originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single sourcing
3 entity and directing the first and the one or more second sessions to two or more different
4 destination entities.
- 1 26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 further comprising:
2 carrying voice information which corresponds to a call waiting context over the
3 first and the one or more second sessions carry voice information.
- 1 27. (Currently amended) A network device for reserving resources in transmission of
2 messages through a computer network comprising:
3 means for receiving a first request from a sourcing entity for initiating a first ses-
4 sion to as first receiving entity by the network device;
5 means for identifying the first session by writing a session group identifier (ses-
6 sion ID) into packets of the first session;
7 means for receiving a second request from the sourcing entity for initiating one or
8 morea second sessions session to a second receiving entity using the session ID of the
9 first session; and
10 means for transmitting a setup message to enable other network devices to share
11 resources between the first session and the second session in response to both the first
12 and second sessions having the same session ID.

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- 1 28. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 27 further comprising:
 - 2 means for including a data structure for storing information for the sessions in a
 - 3 resource reservation engine, and
 - 4 means for storing the session ID for each session in the data structure in the re-
 - 5 source reservation engine.

- 1 29. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 28 further comprising:
 - 2 means for identifying a given session by a source address of an entity sourcing
 - 3 the traffic flow of the session and a resource identifier (ID).

- 1 30. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 29 further comprising:
 - 2 means for utilizing the Resource reSerVation Protocol (RSVP) specification stan-
 - 3 dard in the resource reservation engine, and
 - 4 means for inserting the session ID of a session in a RSVP Path message associ-
 - 5 ated with the given session.

- 1 31. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 30 further comprising:
 - 2 means for carrying voice information over the first and the one or more second
 - 3 sessions.

- 1 32. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 31 further comprising:
 - 2 means for originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single
 - 3 sourcing entity.

- 1 33. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 27 further comprising:
 - 2 means for originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single
 - 3 sourcing entity and directing the first and the one or more second sessions to two or more
 - 4 different destination entities.

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- 1 34. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 33 further comprising:
 - 2 means for carrying voice information which corresponds to a call waiting context
 - 3 over the first and the one or more second sessions carry voice information.
- 1 35. (Currently amended) A method for operating a router comprising:
 - 2 receiving a setup message indicating that a first session has been initiated by a
 - 3 | network device to a first receiving entity, the first session being identified by a first ses-
 - 4 | sion ID written into the setup message;
 - 5 receiving a setup message indicating that at least one second session has been ini-
 - 6 | tiated to a second receiving entity using the session ID of the first session; and
 - 7 sharing resources between the first session and the second session in response to
 - 8 both the first and second sessions having the same session ID.
- 1 36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35 further comprising:
 - 2 including a data structure for storing information for the sessions in a resource
 - 3 | reservation engine, and
 - 4 storing the session ID for each session in the data structure in the resource reser-
 - 5 | vation engine.
- 1 37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36 further comprising:
 - 2 identifying a given session by a source address of an entity sourcing the traffic
 - 3 | flow of the session and a resource identifier (ID).
- 1 38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37 further comprising:
 - 2 utilizing the Resource reSerVation Protocol (RSVP) specification standard in the
 - 3 | resource reservation engine, and
 - 4 inserting the session ID of a session in a RSVP Path message associated with the
 - 5 | given session.

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- 1 39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 further comprising:
2 carrying voice information over the first and the one or more second sessions.
- 1 40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39 further comprising:
2 originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single sourcing
3 entity.
- 1 41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35 further comprising:
2 originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single sourcing
3 entity and directing the first and the one or more second sessions to two or more different
4 destination entities.
- 1 42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41 further comprising:
2 carrying voice information which corresponds to a call waiting context over the
3 first and the one or more second sessions carry voice information.
- 1 43. (Currently Amended) A method for operating a router comprising:
2 means for receiving a setup message indicating that a first session to a first receiv-
3 ing entity has been initiated by a network device, the first session being identified by a
4 first session ID written into the setup message;
5 means for receiving a setup message indicating that at least one second session to
6 a second receiving entity has been initiated using the session ID of the first session; and
7 means for sharing resources between the first session and the second session in
8 response to both the first and second sessions having the same session ID.
- 1 44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43 further comprising:
2 means for including a data structure for storing information for the sessions in a
3 resource reservation engine, and

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4 means for storing the session ID for each session in the data structure in the re-
5 source reservation engine.

1 45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 further comprising:
2 identifying a given session by a source address of an entity sourcing the traffic
3 flow of the session and a resource identifier (ID).

1 46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 further comprising:
2 utilizing the Resource reSerVation Protocol (RSVP) specification standard in the
3 resource reservation engine, and
4 inserting the session ID of a session in a RSVP Path message associated with the
5 given session.

1 47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46 further comprising:
2 carrying voice information over the first and the one or more second sessions.

1 48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47 further comprising:
2 originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single sourcing
3 entity.

1 49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 further comprising:
2 originating the first and the one or more second sessions from a single sourcing
3 entity and directing the first and the one or more second sessions to two or more different
4 destination entities.

1 50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising:
2 carrying voice information which corresponds to a call waiting context over the
3 first and the one or more second sessions carry voice information.

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- 1 51. (Currently Amended) A system for reserving resources in transmitting messages
- 2 through a computer network comprising:
 - 3 an intermediate network device adapted to (a) initiate a first session to a first re-
 - 4 ceiving entity, (b) identify the first session by writing a session group identifier (session
 - 5 ID) into packets of the first session, (c) initiate one or more second sessions to one or
 - 6 more second receiving entites using the session ID of the first session, and (d) transmit a
 - 7 setup message to enable other network devices to share resources between the first ses-
 - 8 sion and the second session in response to both the first and second sessions having the
 - 9 same session ID.
- 1 52. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51 wherein a data structure is included
- 2 for storing information for the sessions in a resource reservation engine, and wherein the
- 3 session ID for each session is stored in the data structure in the resource reservation en-
- 4 gine.
- 1 53. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 52 wherein a given session is identified
- 2 by a source address of an entity sourcing the traffic flow of the session and a resource
- 3 identifier (ID).
- 1 54. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 53 wherein a Resource reSerVation Pro-
- 2 tocol (RSVP) specification standard is utilized in the resource reservation engine, and
- 3 wherein the session ID of a session is inserted in a RSVP Path message associated with
- 4 the given session.
- 1 55. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 54 wherein the first and the one or more
- 2 second sessions carry voice information.
- 1 56. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 55 wherein the first and the one or more
- 2 second sessions originate from a single sourcing entity.

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- 1 57. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51 wherein the first and the one or more
2 second sessions originate from a single sourcing entity and wherein the first and the one
3 or more second sessions is directed to two or more different destination entities.

- 1 58. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 57 wherein the first and the one or more
2 second sessions carry voice information and correspond to a call waiting; context.

- 1 59. (Currently Amended) A router comprising:
 - 2 a packet/frame receiver transmitter object configured to receive a setup message
 - 3 indicating that a first session to a first receiving entity has been initiated by a network de-
 - 4 vice, the first session being identified by a first session ID written into the setup message;
 - 5 a packet/frame receiver transmitter object configured to receive a setup message
 - 6 indicating that at least one second session to a second receiving entity has been initiated
 - 7 using the session ID of the first session; and
 - 8 a resource reservation engine configured to share resources between the first ses-
 - 9 sion and the second session in response to both the first and second sessions having the
 - 10 same session ID.

- 1 60. (Previously Presented) The router of claim 59 wherein
 - 2 the resource reservation engine includes a data structure for storing information
 - 3 for the sessions, and
 - 4 the resource reservation engine stores the session ID for each session in the data
 - 5 structure.

- 1 61. (Previously Presented) The router of claim 60 wherein a given session is identified
2 by a source address of an entity sourcing the traffic flow of the session and a resource
3 identifier (ID).

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- 1 62. (Previously Presented) The router of claim 61 wherein:
 - 2 the resource reservation engine utilizes the Resource reSerVation Protocol
 - 3 (RSVP) specification standard, and
 - 4 the session group ID of a given session is contained in a RSVP Path message as-
 - 5 sociated with the given session.
- 1 63. (Previously Presented) The router of claim 62 wherein the first and the one or more
- 2 second sessions carry voice information.
- 1 64. (Previously Presented) The router of claim 63 wherein the first and the one or more
- 2 second sessions originate from a single sourcing entity .
- 1 65. (Previously Presented) The router of claim 59 wherein the first and the one or more
- 2 second sessions originate from a single sourcing entity and direct the first and the one or
- 3 more second sessions to two or more different destination entities.
- 1 66. (Previously Presented) The router of claim 65 wherein the first and the one or more
- 2 second sessions carry voice information and correspond to a call waiting context.
- 1 67. (Currently Amended) A computer readable media, comprising:
 - 2 said computer readable media having information written thereon, said informa-
 - 3 tion having instructions for execution on a processor for the practice of a method for
 - 4 sharing resources reserved for a first session with a second session in a computer network
 - 5 having a plurality of entities interconnected by a plurality of intermediate network de-
 - 6 vices having one or more resources for use in forwarding network traffic corresponding
 - 7 to sessions, the method having the steps of:
 - 8 receiving a first resource reservation message associated with a first session to a
 - 9 first receiving entity, the first resource reservation message specifying a session group
 - 10 identifier (ID);

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11 storing the session group ID of the first resource reservation message;
12 reserving resources for use with the first session;
13 receiving a second resource reservation message associated with a second session
14 to a second receiving entity, the second resource reservation message corresponding to a
15 session group ID;
16 comparing the session group ID associated with the second resource message with
17 the stored session group ID specified by the first resource reservation message; and
18 if the two session group IDs match, sharing the resources reserved for use with
19 the first session with the second session.

1 68. (Currently Amended) A computer readable media, comprising:
2 said computer readable media having information written thereon, said informa-
3 tion having instructions for execution on a processor for the practice of a method for
4 sharing resources reserved for a first session with a second session in a sourcing entity
5 interconnected with two or more receiving entities by a computer network having a plu-
6 rality of intermediate network devices, the devices having one or more resources for use
7 in forwarding network traffic corresponding to sessions, the method having the steps of:
8 generating a first resource reservation message associated with the first session to
9 a first receiving entity;
10 loading the first resource reservation message with a session group identifier (ID);
11 sending the first resource reservation message with the session group ID toward a
12 first receiving entity;
13 generating a second resource reservation message associated with the second ses-
14 sion to a second receiving entity;
15 loading the first resource reservation message with the session group identifier
16 used in the first resource reservation message; and
17 sending the second resource reservation message with the session group ID to-
18 ward a second receiving entity,

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19 whereby resources reserved for use with the first session are shared with the sec-
20 ond session.

1 69. (Currently Amended) A computer readable media, comprising:
2 said computer readable media having information written thereon, said informa-
3 tion having instructions for execution on a processor for the practice of a method for re-
4 serving resources by a network device for transmission of messages through a computer
5 network, the method having the steps of:
6 initiating a first session to a first receiving entity by the network device;
7 identifying the first session by writing a session group identifier (session ID) into
8 packets of the first session;
9 initiating one or more second sessions to one or more second receiving entities us-
10 ing the session ID of the first session; and
11 transmitting a setup message to enable other network devices to share resources
12 between the first session and the second session in response to both the first and second
13 sessions having the same session ID.

1 70. (Currently Amended) A computer readable media, comprising:
2 said computer readable media having information written thereon, said informa-
3 tion having instructions for execution on a processor for the practice of a method for op-
4 erating a router, the method having the steps of:
5 initiating a first session by the network device to a first receiving entity;
6 identifying the first session by writing a session group identifier (session ID) into
7 packets of the first session;
8 initiating one or more second sessions to one or more second receiving entities us-
9 ing the session ID of the first session; and
10 transmitting a setup message to enable other network devices to share resources
11 between the first session and the second session in response to both the first and second
12 sessions having the same session ID.

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1 71. (Currently Amended) Electromagnetic signals propagating on a computer network,
2 comprising:

3 said electromagnetic signals carrying information having instructions for execu-
4 tion on a processor for the practice of a method for sharing resources reserved for a first
5 session with a second session in a computer network having a plurality of entities inter-
6 connected by a plurality of intermediate network devices having one or more resources
7 for use in forwarding network traffic corresponding to sessions, the method having the
8 steps of:

9 receiving a first resource reservation message associated with a first session to a
10 first receiving entity, the first resource reservation message specifying a session group
11 identifier (ID);

12 storing the session group ID of the first resource reservation message;

13 reserving resources for use with the first session;

14 receiving a second resource reservation message associated with a second session
15 to a second receiving entity, the second resource reservation message corresponding to a
16 session group ID;

17 comparing the session group ID associated with the second resource message with
18 the stored session group ID specified by the first resource reservation message; and

19 if the two session group IDs match, sharing the resources reserved for use with
20 the first session with the second session.

1 72. (Currently Amended) Electromagnetic signals propagating on a computer network,
2 comprising:

3 said electromagnetic signals carrying information having instructions for execu-
4 tion on a processor for the practice of a method for sharing resources reserved for a first
5 session with a second session in a sourcing entity interconnected with two or more re-
6 ceiving entities by a computer network having a plurality of intermediate network de-

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7 vices, the devices having one or more resources for use in forwarding network traffic cor-
8 responding to sessions, the method having the steps of:

9 generating a first resource reservation message associated with the first session to
10 a first receiving entity;

11 loading the first resource reservation message with a session group identifier (ID);
12 sending the first resource reservation message with the session group ID toward a
13 first receiving entity;

14 generating a second resource reservation message associated with the second ses-
15 sion to a second receiving entity;

16 loading the first resource reservation message with the session group identifier
17 used in the first resource reservation message; and

18 sending the second resource reservation message with the session group ID to-
19 ward a second receiving entity,

20 whereby resources reserved for use with the first session are shared with the sec-
21 ond session.

1 73. (Currently Amended) Electromagnetic signals propagating on a computer network,
2 comprising:

3 said electromagnetic signals carrying information having instructions for execu-
4 tion on a processor for the practice of a method for reserving resources by a network de-
5 vice for transmission of messages through a computer network, the method having the
6 steps of:

7 initiating a first session to a first receiving entity by the network device;
8 identifying the first session by writing a session group identifier (session ID) into
9 packets of the first session;

10 initiating one or more second sessions to one or more second receiving entities us-
11 ing the session ID of the first session; and

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12 transmitting a setup message to enable other network devices to share resources
13 between the first session and the second session in response to both the first and second
14 sessions having the same session ID.

1 74. (Currently Amended) Electromagnetic signals propagating on a computer network,
2 comprising:

3 said electromagnetic signals carrying information having instructions for execu-
4 tion on a processor for the practice of a method for operating a router, the method having
5 the steps of:

6 | initiating a first session to a first receiving entity by the network device;
7 | identifying the first session by writing a session group identifier (session ID) into
8 packets of the first session;
9 | initiating one or more second sessions to one or more second receiving entities us-
10 ing the session ID of the first session; and

11 transmitting a setup message to enable other network devices to share resources
12 between the first session and the second session in response to both the first and second
13 sessions having the same session ID.

1 75. (Previously Presented) A method for reserving resources to transmit messages
2 through a computer network comprising:

3 selecting a group session ID for establishing a first session;
4 establishing the first session from a network sourcing device to a first network
5 receiving device routing through an intermediate network device;
6 using the same group session ID for establishing a second session;
7 establishing the second session from the network sourcing device to a second net-
8 work receiving device routing through the intermediate network device; and
9 sharing, in response to the first session and the second session having the same
10 group session ID, resources reserved for the first session with the second session.

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- 1 76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 75, further comprising:
 - 2 receiving by the intermediate network device a first message of the first session
 - 3 and a second message of the second session, the first message and the second message
 - 4 having the same group session ID; and
 - 5 sharing by the intermediate network device, in response to the first message and
 - 6 the second message having the same group session ID, resources reserved for the first
 - 7 session with the second session.
- 1 77. (Previously Presented) A network device for reserving resources to transmit mes-
2 sages through a computer network comprising:
 - 3 means for selecting a group session ID for establishing a first session;
 - 4 means for establishing the first session from a network sourcing device to a first
 - 5 network receiving device routing through an intermediate network device;
 - 6 means for using the same group session ID for establishing a second session;
 - 7 means for establishing the second session from the network sourcing device to a
 - 8 second network receiving device routing through the intermediate network device; and
 - 9 means for sharing, in response to the first session and the second session having
 - 10 the same group session ID, resources reserved for the first session with the second ses-
11 sion.
- 1 78. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77, further comprising:
 - 2 means for receiving by the intermediate network device a first message of the first
 - 3 session and a second message of the second session; and
 - 4 means for sharing by the intermediate network device, in response to the first
 - 5 message and the second message having the same group session ID, resources reserved
 - 6 for the first session with the second session.
- 1 79. (Previously Presented) A network device for reserving resources to transmit mes-
2 sages through a computer network comprising:

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3 a signaling entity detecting a situation where a second session between a network
4 sourcing device and a second network receiving device can share the resources reserved
5 for a first session between the network sourcing device and a first network receiving de-
6 vice;

7 a resource identifier (ID) generator, in response to a situation where the second
8 session can share resources reserved for the first session, selecting a same group session
9 ID for the first session and the second session; and

10 a message generator sending a first message to establish the first session, and
11 sending a second message to establish the second session, the message generator includ-
12 ing the group session ID in both the first message and the second message.

1 80. (Previously Presented) A computer network having:

2 a first network receiving device;

3 a second network receiving device; and

4 a network sourcing device for selecting a group session ID for a first session and
5 selecting the same group session ID for a second session, sending a first message to es-
6 tablish the first session between the network sourcing device and the first network receiv-
7 ing device, sending a second message to establish the second session between the net-
8 work sourcing device and the second network receiving device, and in response to the
9 group session ID in the second message, sharing network resources reserved for the first
10 session with the second session.

1 81. (Currently Amended) The computer network of claim 8380, further having:

2 an intermediate network device, the intermediate network device receiving the
3 first message of the first session and the second message of the second session, and, in
4 response to the first message and the second message having the same group session ID,
5 sharing resources reserved for the first session with the second session.

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6 82. (Previously Presented) A method for a computer network to reserve resources for
7 messages sent from a network sourcing device to one or more network receiving devices,
8 the method comprising:

9 selecting by the network sourcing device a group session ID for a first session and
10 selecting the same group session ID for a second session;

11 sending a first message from the network sourcing device to establish the first ses-
12 sion between the network sourcing device and a first network receiving device;

13 sending a second message from the network sourcing device to establish the sec-
14 ond session between the network sourcing device and a second receiving device; and

15 sharing, in response to the group session ID in the second message, resources re-
16 served for the first session with the second session.

1 | 83. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8582, further comprising:

2 receiving by an intermediate network device a first message of the first session
3 and a second message of the second session; and

4 sharing by the intermediate network device, in response to the first message and
5 second message having the same group session ID, resources reserved for the first session
6 with the second session.